

Message Text

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FOR HOUGHTON FROM MITCHELL

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TAGS:OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: VALERIANI INTERVIEW WITH KISSINGER

FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION IS TEXT OF VALERIANI INTER-
VIEW WITH HENRY KISSINGER ON TODAY SHOW MORNING OF JUNE 14.

BEGIN TEXT:

VALERIANI: DR. KISSINGER, THE ADMINISTRATION SEEMS TO BE
HAVING SOME TROUBLE MAKING ITS CASE FOR CUBAN INVOLVEMENT
IN THE INVASION OF SHABA PROVINCE IN ZAIRE. NOW, YOU
THINK THAT'S BECAUSE IT HAS A FLIMSY CASE OR DOES IT GO
BEYOND, SOMETHING DEEPER INVOLVED.

KISSINGER: I THINK THAT SOME OF IT IS A LEGACY OF THE VIET

NAM WAR . . . I THINK WE OUGHT TO ASSUME THAT WHEN THE
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PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES SAYS SOMETHING THAT HE'S
TELLING THE TRUTH, WHETHER EVERY LITTLE PIECE CAN BE PRE-
SENTED IS ANOTHER MATTER. BUT THE FACT IS THAT THE
KATANGA GENDARME THAT MADE THE INVASION OF SHABA PROVINCE,
THEY'VE BEEN THERE FOR TWELVE YEARS IN ANGOLA. THERE'S

NEVER BEEN AN INVASION OF ZAIRE UNTIL THE CUBANS SHOWED UP.

AFTER THE CUBANS SHOWED UP THERE HAVE BEEN TWO INVASIONS IN TWO YEARS. I THINK THIS IS PRETTY GOOD CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE. WHAT OTHER ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE THE ADMINISTRATION HAS I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T THINK ONE SHOULD ALWAYS ASSUME THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT TELLING THE TRUTH. I'M ASSUMING THEY ARE TELLING THE TRUTH.

VALERIANI: YOU HAVE SAID, DR. KISSINGER, THAT THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD DRAW THE LINE ON THE CUBANS AND THE RUSSIANS IN AFRICA. HOW DO YOU DO THAT?

KISSINGER: FIRST OF ALL I THINK THAT WE HAVE 40 THOUSAND CUBANS, A COUNTRY OF 9 MILLION OFF OUR SHORES, HAVING AN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE OF 40 THOUSAND IN AFRICA, HAVING INTERVENED IN ANGOLA, ETHIOPIA, HAVING TROOPS IN MOZAMBIQUE, EVEN IN SOUTH YEMEN ON THE ARABIAN PENINSULA. I THINK THE SOVIET UNION HAS TO BE MADE TO UNDERSTAND THAT THERE CANNOT BE PROXY WARS AND DETENTE AT THE SAME TIME. SECONDLY, I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT IT IS BEYOND THE WIT OF THE FREE PEOPLES TOGETHER TO STOP A CARIBBEAN ISLAND OF 9 MILLION THAT IS TOTALLY DEPENDENT FOR ITS LOGISTICS ON THE SOVIET UNION.

VALERIANI: WELL, WHAT WOULD YOU SUGGEST, SOME KIND OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS COLLECTIVELY?

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KISSINGER: WELL, I DON'T THINK I SHOULD GO INTO THE TACTICAL ADVICE BUT I THINK WE HAVE OUR POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP, WE HAVE OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP. THERE IS NOW SOME TALK OF A JOINT FORCE IN SHABA PROVINCE, IN ZAIRE. BUT ABOVE ALL, I THINK IT HAS TO BE UNDERSTOOD THIS IS AN UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR.

VALERIANI: WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO DETENTE?

KISSINGER: WELL FIRST OF ALL, ONE HAS TO UNDERSTAND WHAT DETENTE IS. THERE ARE ALWAYS ELEMENTS OF COMPETITION AND COOPERATION IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION. I THINK WHAT HAS HAPPENED OVER THE PAST YEAR OR TWO IS THAT THE SOVIET UNION MAY HAVE ACQUIRED THE IDEA THAT WE'RE NOT READY TO FACE THE COMPETITIVE ASPECT OF IT AND GRADUALLY ESCALATED ITS INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA AND IN SUCH PLACES AS AFGHANISTAN WHERE WHETHER THEY DID IT DIRECTLY OR NOT, A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN PUT INTO OFFICE. AND THAT IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH DETENTE.

VALERIANI: DO YOU THINK THIS WAS A TEST OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION BY THE RUSSIANS?

KISSINGER: I THINK IT WAS. AT THE BEGINNING OF ALMOST ANY NEW ADMINISTRATION, THERE IS A TEST. THERE WAS ONE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION; THERE WAS ONE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION, AND I THINK THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IS NOW GOING THROUGH HIS PERIOD OF TESTING.

VALERIANI: AND YOU SAY WE HAVE TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO THEM THAT WHAT THEY ARE DOING IS UNACCEPTABLE. HOW DO WE MAKE IT CLEAR BEYOND RHETORICALLY? WHAT DO WE DO PHYSICALLY?

KISSINGER: WELL, I HAVE PROPOSED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE EXTENSION OF CREDITS OF THE COMMUNIST WORLD OWES THE UNCLASSIFIED

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INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES NEARLY 50 BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF CREDIT. NOW IT'S ABSURD FOR US TO BE FINANCING FOREIGN INTERVENTIONS. AND TO BE HELPING INDIRECTLY THE SOVIET MILITARY BUILD UP. NOW THIS IS THE SORT OF THING THAT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR TO THE SOVIETS. THAT IF THEY WANT TO HAVE PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE, THEN OF COURSE WE CAN HAVE MORE NORMAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS. BUT WE CANNOT BE FINANCING THEIR MILITARY ADVENTURES ABROAD.

VALERIANI: DO YOU THINK THAT PRESIDENT CARTER CLARIFIED AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION IN HIS ANNAPOLIS SPEECH?

KISSINGER: WELL, HE TOOK A STEP TOWARDS IT. I PERSONALLY. ...THERE WAS SOME GAP BETWEEN SOME OF THE PHILOSOPHICAL POINTS AND SOME OF THE PRACTICAL POINTS. I DON'T KNOW WHAT AN INDIAN OCEAN TREATY MEANS, THAT WE ALWAYS KEEP MENTIONING WHEN THE SOVIETS ARE IN ETHIOPIA, WHEN THE SOVIETS CAN THREATEN ALL OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA FROM LAND AND WE CAN DEFEND THEM ONLY FROM THE SEA. SO I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT PARTICULARS. BUT I THINK THE PHILOSOPHICAL STATEMENT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO MAKE.

VALERIANI : AND DO YOU THINK THE UNITED STATES SHOULD GO AHEAD TRYING TO NEGOTIATE AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT WITH THE RUSSIANS WHILE THE RUSSIANS ARE MISBEHAVING IN AFRICA?

KISSINGER: I THINK THAT AS THE PRESIDENT POINTED OUT IN HIS ANNAPOLIS SPEECH THAT IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO RATIFY THE SALT AGREEMENT ANYWAY. IT WILL BECOME NEARLY UNMANAGEABLE IF IT HAS TO BE RATIFIED AT A TIME THAT THERE ARE CONFLICTS GOING ON ALL OVER AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE. AND

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I THINK THAT IF THE SOVIET UNION WANTS A RELAXATION OF TENSIONS, ALL WE'RE ASKING FROM THEM IS NOT TO ENGAGE IN FOREIGN MILITARY ADVENTURES. THAT ISN'T ASKING TOO MUCH.
END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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